

## **FAN BLADE COVER**

### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

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[0001]The paddle/blade, invented and developed for the use of moving and stopping, is constructed out of various types of woods, plastics, metals and a combination thereof. This useful creation over time became the foundation of some of the most popular products we've used across the country and world today. For example, the ceiling fan gives us the ability to  
10 redistribute air to cool or heat an environment and to exhaust an environment in order to expel foul odors, poisonous gases, fumes, toxins and the like.

[0002]Covers have been developed to protect and customize ceiling fan blades. Ceilings fans require careful handling during cleaning and covering. Thus, blade covers need to be easy to  
15 install and remove to avoid damaging the fan. Ceiling fans are also necessarily balanced to reduce wobble, thereby reducing the wear on the bearings and prolonging the life of the fan motor. Therefore, blade covers should be sufficiently lightweight so as to not affect the balance of the fan.

20 [0003]Prior art fan covers, upon experimental reproduction, were determined to be of excessive weight and bulky design.

[0004]Thus, there remains a need in the art for a fan blade cover that is lightweight such that it does not create a drag notable to the eye nor to the fan motor and does not create an  
25 imbalance in the fan. Furthermore there remains a need for a cover that is close- or tight-fitting and well-designed such that it is unnoticeable as a cover.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0005]The present invention is directed toward a ceiling fan blade cover including a lightweight percale cotton cloth ceiling fan blade cover, capable of being installed onto a corresponding ceiling fan blade. The cover has an oblong-shaped body having an outside edge with defining boundary lines of the body having an identifiable outside surface and inside surface. The outside surface has a serged edge to prevent raveling and to create a stronger foundation and an elastic band connected thereto and having ends that are bar-tacked and attached to the cover edges to produce an elastic circumference of the cover. The elastic circumference is connected at opposite sides by ends of an elastic strap having two cut and unfinished ends that are bar-tacked, providing removable adherence of the cover to the corresponding blade and providing the cover to take on the shape and appearance of the corresponding ceiling fan blade when installed thereon.

[0006]The present invention is yet further directed toward a method of constructing a ceiling fan blade cover including several steps. One step is to provide an oblong shaped design having an outside edge and a main body, the main body having an outside surface and an inside surface. The design is cut from a lightweight material to form an oblong-shaped main body of the cover, followed by sewing a serged edge on the main body of the cover to prevent raveling, connecting an elastic band to the outside edge thereby creating an elastic circumference, and connecting ends of an elastic strap to opposite sides of the elastic circumference. This produces a lightweight ceiling fan blade cover, capable of being installed onto a corresponding ceiling fan blade, such that the cover has an oblong-shaped body having an outside edge with defining boundary lines of the body having an identifiable outside surface and inside surface, the outside surface having serged edge to prevent raveling and to create a stronger foundation; the outside surface edge further including an elastic band connected thereto and having ends that are bar-tacked and attached to the cover edges to produce an elastic circumference of the cover, the elastic circumference being connected at opposite sides by ends of an elastic strap having two cut and unfinished ends that are bar-tacked for providing removable adherence of the cover to the corresponding blade and providing the cover to take on the shape and appearance of the corresponding ceiling fan blade when installed thereon.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

[0007] FIG. 1 is perspective view of the front side of a completed cloth ceiling fan cover, oblong  
shaped and smooth in appearance, which is installed by the means of pulling on and removed by  
5 the means of pulling off.

[0008] FIG. 2 is perspective view of the backside of the fan cover of FIG. 1.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0009]In comparison and consideration to the prior art in this field, this ceiling fan cover herein disclosed is lighterweight, using the least amount of fabric and the lightest form of fabric/thread on the market, without sacrificing beauty. In a preferred embodiment, percale cotton is used, as it is durable, stylish, and cost-effective. It is also absorbent to flame retardant chemicals, dyes, and "glow in the dark matter". Other advantages are the fact that it is lightweight, immeasurable in beauty and adaptability, cooperative with other fabric's and demonstrating the least amount of resistant and failures.

[0010]The present invention has a remarkable application time and manufacturing time. Two minutes to reproduce and five seconds to apply to the paddle/blade. Other advantages may include:

1. Lowering cost to production and public
2. Safety to persons and ceiling fans while in motion/operation
3. Closures eliminated
4. Appeal to a broad/diversified audience concerning manufacturing methods
5. Speed when applying and retracting ref. to paddle/blade
6. Weight reduction made suitable
7. Omitted adjustments application onto paddle/blade
8. Heighten concept with wisdom
9. Omitted gimmicks to indications/signage
10. Simplifying manufacturing
11. Reconstructed a design suitable to all fans and their purpose
12. Utility with a simple understanding
13. Wholesale and Marketing price made practicability.
14. Shorten lobbyist time
15. Reduced logistics
16. Shorten scope

17. Speeding up manufacturing time

18. Creating and made an overall appealing product.

[0011] With these new improvements, one sees more benefits throughout the cover's performance as it is placed, covering, removed and reapplied. The lowering of cost and the subtraction of many unnecessary steps/processes/directions; reference to the use of natural and synthetic of materials to make this cover. This cover is more affordable and easier to apply and remove over and over again, in comparison to the previous covers. Covering the ceiling fan paddles/blades with ease is the pinnacle of any cover devised.

[0012]The present invention is designed for mass production. Logic and consideration in packaging was of one the main concerns, this applies to the (liability concerns) weight of each cover, understanding compliances with storage space, purchasing, distribution in a bulk fashion, and sales and profit margin.

[0013]In reference to the operation and closing methods in the previous patent's, you will not find those methods in this cover, these measures/steps/claims/instruments have all been eliminated thus refining cover to a quicker, less pain staking, no brainier, fun to have around the house/office/business item. These are the differences which elevates and separates this invention from the previous inventions, along with establishing itself as a independence functioning article which is strong, easy to handle and longer lasting (having no attached or replacement parts) such as; things/ends to tightening, pulling, snapping, hooking, pass through strings belonging to a sewn in passage, special cut-out pieces to button, stretch/scratch/scrap or whole synthetics material design especially developed for odd shape nouns (polyester blends/polyester/spandex) to fit snug any odd shape (note, this material is limited to fashions, colors, styles, toughness, heat drying, extended pulling, dispensing old oil that has gathered debris during it's operation) the cover to fit, Velcro connecting to close or taper for a perfect fit, additional or unique sizing cutting before sewing, folding, venting, liners, using a stretch material, open ended flaps, material wastefully used on both side of the paddle/blade to protect both sides, even in places where there is no dust or little dust, oil, grease, grime, aging and anything else to be disguised,

hidden, masked, and so called protected. This improved cover is simply made of two types of materials, 1.) a light weight piece of cotton with a creative design or simply a solid shade, cut oblong accordantly (5/8 in. beyond the edge of the paddle/blade) using (preferably percale cotton, a lightweight fabric, excellent because of the low to moderate thread count, durable for washing many times over, machine drying and low temp. ironing or no ironing required) 2.) and a 1/4 in. to 1 in. wide elastic for the sides which is 2/3 the length around the cover, which would be considered as the entire circumference . Note, the margin within this space can be used in the form of variations, the scope of the action remains consistent throughout the areas in design and utility. One to five straps of the same width 1/4 in. to 1 in. wide elastic 3 in. to 4 in. long on the back, spaced evenly. The materials used in this invention can be found easily all over the world, to wit: the under garments you are probably wearing can be used to make one.

[0014]Securing the cover to the paddles/blades, without a doubt added more objects/weight in prior designs. This creates a drag, introducing another problem which maybe discovered in the long term; to wit: the early burning out of the fans motor parts. This 1/8 in. thick paddle/blade attached to a small motor cannot with stand the rigors of too much weight, even presented in ounces. I found in experimenting that only a combined total of 2.5 to 5 ounces can attached itself to the paddle/blade without interfering with the fan's operation, paddles/blades deg. and balance. Based upon this finding, I reserve the right to the assert "weight properties" necessary to not interrupt or interfere and the variable space provided, according to the spec. of the manufactured fan.

[0015]This new design is far easier, lighter in weight, and cheaper to make piece by piece or in a bulk fashion. All methods used in the making of this cover are standard, used in creating, recreating or the making of a article using fabric or synthetic material. These standards are not to be disregarded, theses are measures well thought out and are sensible in the design and use of fabric. Sewing classes, fabric stores, sewing circles, sewing books and magazines, are methods where knowledge can be found in reference to the standards of basic sewing. Sewing professionals instruct, teach and cover only what is necessary to saves time, money, thoughts, mistakes, waste and destruction. Covering a four dimensional item in this fashion which provides

only a 3 dimensional view is the most practical, logical, cost effective, and feasible. This cover is so simple, that a foolish person or a child could figure it out and describe it and apply it to a common household ceiling fan. Non-operating fans which are in some cases too expensive to remove and to have replaced, this cover will serve as blanket solution. The cover can capture the beauty in something that is of no more use, but is not worth the added expense of getting rid of. As inexpensive as this cover is to create, it can be used as a tool/means of a solution for a person in no time. The persons who give ways and means to the values of fans and their properties will appreciate this product.

[0016] Less hassle in creating devices, such as this cover can mean a great deal, specifically to the one person who is applying it from underneath the fan. Most will attempt to apply it by climbing on top of a item to gain a advantage over the fan until they gain some sense of authority or control or complete understanding. This will happen in no time with this cover. Because of the "easy method" of application ref to the design and utility, it will be as promised, easy to learn and easy to take care of. As we well know, the most profitable inventions are the "easy to learn and understand." This method releases energy and joy because it is not confusing.

[0017] Referring now to the drawings, FIG. 1 shows a oblong shaped design referred to as a cover 10. The cover 10 has a main body, in a preferred embodiment formed from a flexible lightweight percale fabric 12. The maximum volume of fabric used does not surpass 1 ounce after construction into the cover 10. The cover possesses no outer seams in the fabric, no matter the size of the ceiling fan paddle/blade. In the preferred embodiment, percale cotton is the preferred fabric and a thin elastic band circumference which is sewn onto the percale cotton (not shown) which allows its oblong shape to adapt or conform to any shape of paddle/blade, including round, beveled, square, cathedral or wood, plastic, heavy cardboard, metal or any combination thereof; any formation or deviations within or out of the scope of these named shapes, not to exclude damages, normal wear and tear, erosions, eruptions, fractures, or designs intentional or unintentional.

[0018] Referring now to the drawing FIG. 2, the reverse of FIG. 1, shows an oblong cover 10 which is preferably composed of percale cotton, including any designer blends, because of the fabric's versatility in design, color and pattern. The cover is formed by sewing the elastic band 22 over the top of the fabric at the fabric's circumference 24. The thin elastic band 22 is  
5 preferably 1/4 inch width.

[0019] The cover 10 has a seam line 18, which is present at the base of the cover 14, described as the narrow end. This closed seam 18 is a heavy bar tack stitch, which allows the fabric 12 and the elastic band 22 to maintain a sealed position. The completion of the elastic and  
10 the finishing of the adjoining between the two materials in their conclusion form a seam 18 needing no other apparatus passing through, to handle or loose article to thread, apply, attach, or assemble. The preferred materials, percale cotton and elastic strap, makes this invention light and simple, in which a cover can be made in 2 minutes, from start to completion.

[0020] The selection of these materials for this invention creates a cover 10 that holds fast to the fan blade and weighs less than 1 ounce.

[0021] The 1/4 circumference 24 and the elastic band 22 permits the present invention to hold fast to the blade's narrow end 14 and broad end 16 with ease, eliminating any need for  
20 additional fabric, passages, hook-and-loop fasteners, glue, air ducts, ventilation holes, special cuts, drawstrings, spandex or stretch materials, etc., or other types of devices which have been used in prior arts such as; U.S. Pat. No. 5,591,005; 5,564,900; 5,281,093; 5,591,006; 4,832,572; 5,516,264; 4,676,721; 5,470,205; 5,947,686; 6,015,261; etc.

[0022] The elastic strap 26 is preferably 1/4 inch in width and is made of elastic material identical to the circumference 24. The elastic strap maintains the flat, flush, and smooth appearance of the cover 10 by creating a side-to-side pull that keeps all decorative patterns in  
25 position.



[0023]The strap indirectly provides a sense of added protection and comfort to the consumer so the product can become a regular seen item and used in the houses, homes and offices. The snug and sturdy fit provided by the strap conveys a notion of safety while the cover moves in a circular fashion at any speed.

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[0024]In case the cover loses its strap 26 or has it removed for any reason, the cover 10 will not take flight, come apart or slide off the paddle/blade, being held in place by the elastic circumference.

10 [0025]This elastic strap 26. is 3 ½ inches in a relaxed state, and stretches to 4 ½ inches when applied to the paddle/blade and stress is added. The cut or loose ends of the 3 ½ inch strap 26 is heavily bar tack underneath the elastic circumference, seen at the seam lines 28 and 30, for beauty, strength, neatness, and flexibility.

15 [0026]The present invention is thus a ceiling fan blade cover including a lightweight percale cotton cloth ceiling fan blade cover, capable of being installed onto a corresponding ceiling fan blade; the cover having an oblong-shaped body having an outside edge with defining boundary lines of the body having an identifiable outside surface and inside surface, the outside surface having a serged edge to prevent raveling and to create a stronger foundation; the outside  
20 surface edge further including an elastic band connected thereto and having ends that are bar-tacked and attached to the cover edges to produce an elastic circumference of the cover, the elastic circumference being connected at opposite sides by ends of an elastic strap having two cut and unfinished ends that are bar-tacked for providing removable adherence of the cover to the corresponding blade and providing the cover to take on the shape and appearance of the  
25 corresponding ceiling fan blade when installed thereon. The elastic strap is preferably thin. The cover is preferably a durable, welcoming, long lasting, adaptable cover. The cover is preferably fabricated from the best and most durable, multitask, and cost efficient fabric which will conform to all shapes, cut well, not slide, adjoins with other materials best, matches well, and easiest to find, transports well, stores well, manufactures and fit after production all types of designed  
30 edges. The fabric is one that can preferably be advertised on, dye, imitated, duplicated, copies,

holds up to heat and dirt well, and suitable for any room or matching expensive to inexpensive linens, silks, satin, rayon, synthetics materials.

Preferably, a multiplicity of covers for removable attachment to each of a corresponding multiplicity of ceiling fan blades on a single fan can be provided, the covers forming a set to  
5 provide a uniform, matching appearance.

[0027] Another preferred embodiment of the present invention includes a ceiling fan blade cover, including a lightweight ceiling fan blade cover, capable of being installed onto a corresponding ceiling fan blade; the cover having an oblong-shaped body having an outside edge  
10 with defining boundary lines of the body having an identifiable outside surface and inside surface, the outside surface having serged edge to prevent raveling and to create a stronger foundation. The outside surface edge further includes an elastic band connected thereto and having ends that are bar-tacked and attached to the cover edges to produce an elastic  
15 circumference of the cover, the elastic circumference being connected at opposite sides by ends of an elastic strap having two cut and unfinished ends that are bar-tacked for providing removable adherence of the cover to the corresponding blade and providing the cover to take on the shape and appearance of the corresponding ceiling fan blade when installed thereon. In a preferred embodiment, the cover is formed of a cotton cloth. Preferably, the cover total weight is about one ounce.

[0028] The present invention also includes a method of constructing a ceiling fan blade cover, the steps including: providing a oblong shaped design, the design having an outside edge and a main body, the main body having an outside surface and an inside surface; cutting the design from a lightweight material to form an oblong-shaped main body of the cover; sewing a  
25 serged edge on the main body of the cover to prevent raveling; connecting an elastic band to the outside edge thereby creating an elastic circumference; connecting ends of an elastic strap to opposite sides of the elastic circumference; thereby producing a lightweight ceiling fan blade cover, capable of being installed onto a corresponding ceiling fan blade, such that the cover has an oblong-shaped body having an outside edge with defining boundary lines of the body having  
30 an identifiable outside surface and inside surface, the outside surface having serged edge to

prevent raveling and to create a stronger foundation; the outside surface edge further including an elastic band connected thereto and having ends that are bar-tacked and attached to the cover edges to produce an elastic circumference of the cover, the elastic circumference being connected at opposite sides by ends of an elastic strap having two cut and unfinished ends that are bar-tacked for providing removable adherence of the cover to the corresponding blade and providing the cover to take on the shape and appearance of the corresponding ceiling fan blade when installed thereon. The method can further include the step of sewing the outside edge of the design to the main body of the cover. Preferably, the elastic strap is centrally located on the body of the cover. Also, the elastic band is sewn to the body of the cover. Another step is preferably placing a triple double bar tack stitch in the most narrow end creating a wall of strength, a avenue of permanent juncture, a governor and a seal; and further including the step of bar tacking an unbroken strap in a most center part of the cover; and even more preferably including the step of bar tacking the elastic strap in a center part of the oblong shaped body of the cover.